

# 2013 Consumer Confidence Report

## El Camino Water Company

### June 28, 2014

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 – December 31, 2013.

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

**Type of water source:** El Camino Water Company consists of one ground water well. The location served is located off Highway 101 on Spence road.

**Drinking Water Source Assessment:** The water source assessment was conducted for Well 01 of the El Camino WC in May, 2001. The source is considered most vulnerable for the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Septic systems – low density, wood/pulp/paper processing and mills, and known contaminant plumes. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting Sandy Ayala 831-755-8924, [ayalasa@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:ayalasa@co.monterey.ca.us).

**For more information, contact:** MCSI Water Systems Management Phone: (831) 659-5360

#### TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Variances and Exemptions:** Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**The sources of drinking water** (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

**Contaminants that may be present in source water include:**

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural activities and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink**, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Water Quality Data Tables**

**The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent.** The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA					
Contaminant(s) (units)	Highest # Detected in a Month	# Of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Coliform	5	1	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform/E Coli	0	0	A routine sample and repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E. coli	0	Human & animal fecal waste

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER							
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG	AL	Number of samples taken	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	# of Samples > AL	Sample Date	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	0.3	1.3	5	0.374	0	9/2011	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (ppb)	0.2	15	5	3	0	9/2011	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF RADIOACTIVITY						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	(0)	15	4.93		6/2010	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	0.019	5	0.714	0.378-1.05	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	0.43	20	14		2/2011	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL/ (AL)	Level Detected Avg.	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Arsenic (ppb)	4	10	2		12/2011	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	1	0.086		12/2011	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (ppb)	(100)	50	13		12/2011	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1.0	2.0	0.29		12/2011	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm) (As NO <sub>3</sub> )	45	45	<b>57.5</b>	<b>52-66</b>	2013	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	30	50	7		12/2011	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD					
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Chloride (ppm)	N/A	500	135	12/2011	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; sea water influence
Color (units)	N/A	15	7	12/2011	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron (ppb)	N/A	300	11	12/2011	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Odor (units)	N/A	3	1	12/2011	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductivity (umhos/cm)	N/A	1600	1250	12/2011	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	500	210	12/2011	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	N/A	1000	723	12/2011	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	5	0.15	12/2011	Soil runoff

SUBSTANCES OF INTEREST				
Contaminant(s) (units)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	N/A	235	12/2011	Generally found in ground and surface water
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	104	12/2011	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally-occurring
Hardness (ppm)	N/A	470	12/2011	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally-occurring
pH	N/A	7.3	12/2011	A measurement of acidity, 7.0 being neutral

### Additional Information on Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/ Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, AL, or a Violation:

- **Total Coliform Bacteria:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. One month failed the minimum total coliforms. The system was disinfected and retested until all samples were free of bacteria.
- **Nitrate over MCL:** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.

### For Systems Providing Ground Water as a Source of Drinking Water

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUND WATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0		0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste

### Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Ground Water Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Violation of Ground Water TT

#### SPECIAL NOTICE FOR UNCORRECTED DEFICIENCIES

- The water system is deficient due to high nitrate results. Nitrate tests are performed quarterly with public notification as required. All users should drink and cook with bottled water.

### System Improvements and Updates:

- The water system plans to replace inoperable shut off valves

### Conservation and Drought Tips:

- Contact MCSI at (831) 659-5360 or The Water Awareness Committee at [www.waterawareness.org](http://www.waterawareness.org) for further information